

Arkansas Higher Education 2017 Annual Comprehensive Report

December 1, 2017

Annual Enrollment Report



Research & Analytics

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ANNUAL ENROLLMENT REPORT

Attachments

Attachment 1-1

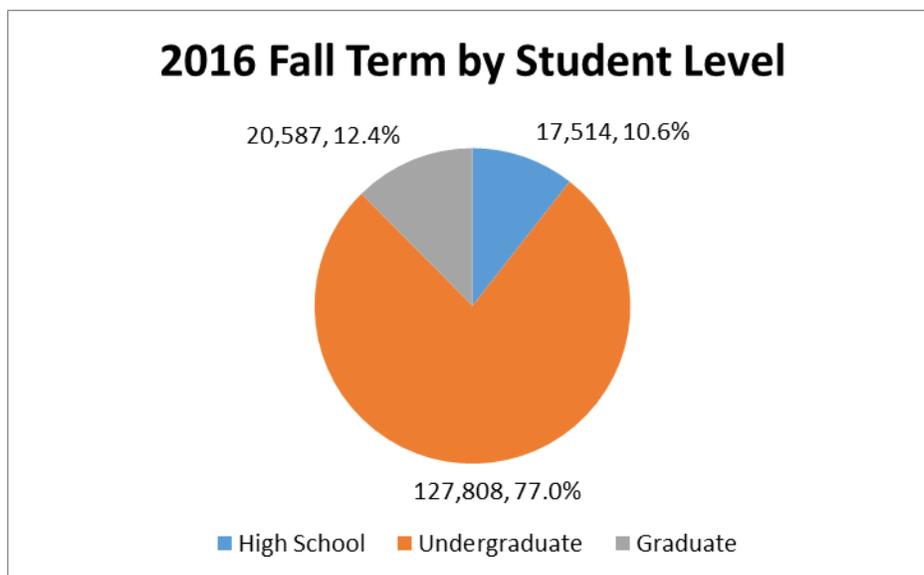
Fall Enrollment: From 2012 Fall through 2016 Fall

Attachment 1-2	Annual Unduplicated Enrollment by Academic Year and Institution
Attachment 1-3	Enrollment by Gender
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One-year comparisons:

The **total** enrollment for the 2016 Fall term in all sectors of Arkansas higher education (public universities, public colleges, as well as independent colleges and universities and nursing schools¹) was **165,909 students**; representing a 1-year decrease of 0.7 percent.

Of these 165,909 students, 17,514 were high school students (10.6 percent), 127,808 were undergraduate students (77.0 percent) and 20,587 were graduate students (12.4 percent).

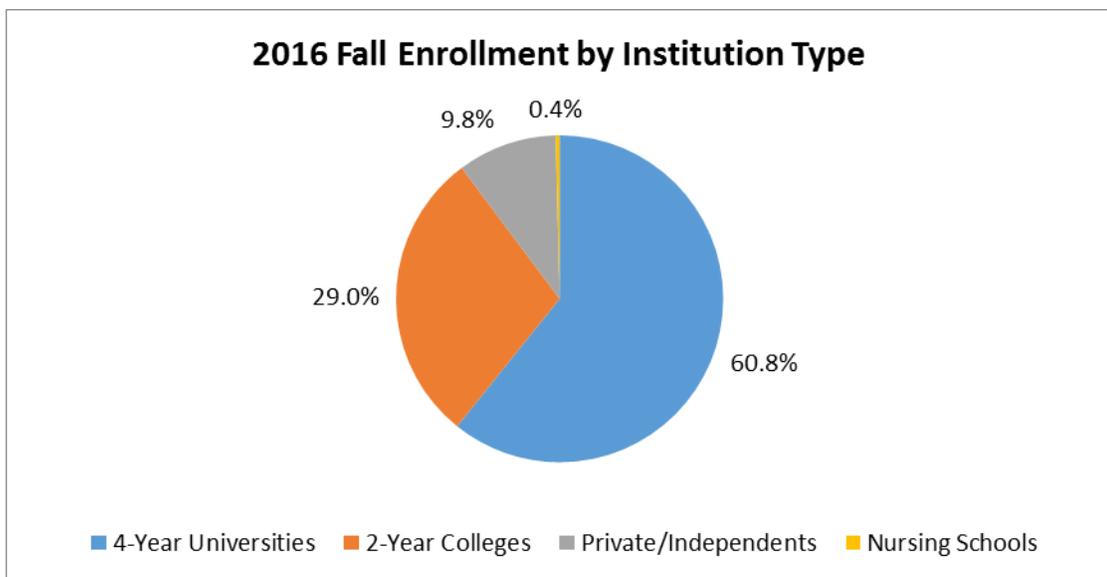


¹ The nursing schools of BSN (Baptist School of Nursing) and JSN (Jefferson School of Nursing) report data to ADHE due to the Lottery Act.

Only the number of graduate students enrolled has increased since the 2015 Fall term. The number of both high school and undergraduate students has decreased.

Growth Since 2015 Fall	Numbers	Percent
High School	-276	-1.6%
Undergraduate	-1,847	-1.4%
Graduate	977	5.0%
Total	-1,182	-0.7%

Public 4-Year University enrollment continues to constitute the majority of all higher education enrollment in Arkansas. The below pie chart illustrates that 60.8 percent of all college students are enrolled at public 4-Year Universities, 29.0 percent are at public 2-Year Colleges, 9.8 percent are at private/independent institutions of higher education, and 0.4 percent are enrolled at nursing schools.



The current enrollment decline is only affecting public 2-Year Colleges and to a lesser degree, the Private and Independent institutions.

Growth Since 2015 Fall	Numbers	Percent
4-Year Universities	1337	1.34%
2-Year Colleges	-2,392	-4.73%
Private/Independents	-106	-0.65%
Nursing Schools	13	2.08%
Total	-1,148	-0.69%

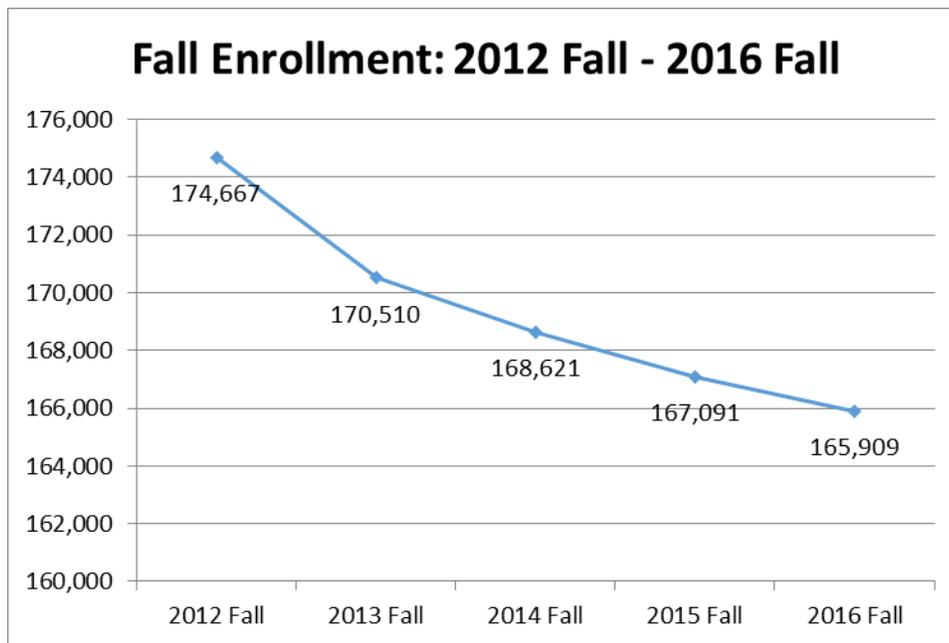
Issue of Non-Traditional and Innovative Terms/Semesters

Historically, colleges and universities have enrolled students into fall, spring and summer terms. However, with many institutions attempting to be more customer service oriented and because of increased competition for students from other institutions of higher education (including out-of-state online programs), many institutions are offering enrollments into terms that do not coincide with the traditional fall, spring and summer terms. A common arrangement is three terms per semester: (a) one 8-week term at the beginning of the traditional term, (b) a second 8-week term at the end of the traditional term, and (c) the full 16-week traditional term. Some terms may even cross over the traditional terms, such as an 8-week term starting in late November and ending in January, etc.

This phenomenon is expected to continue and its use will most likely increase. This will have the effect of blurring term comparisons making annual comparisons more useful than term comparisons.

Five-year comparisons:

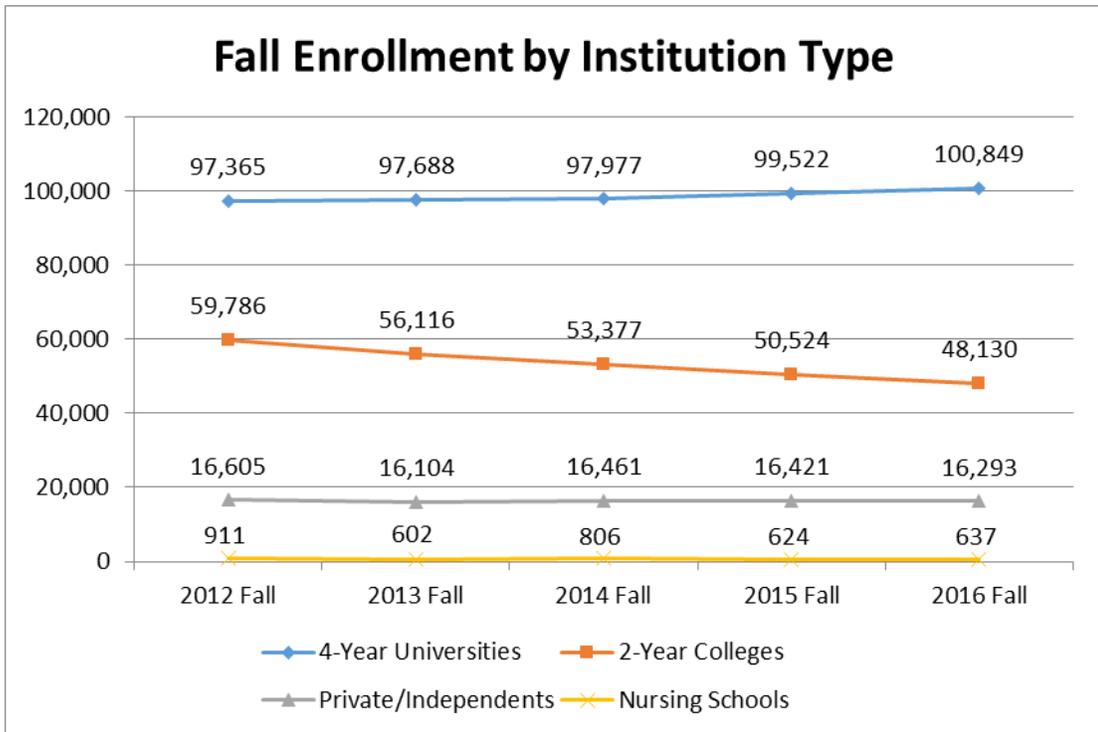
Comparing 2016 Fall data to 2012 Fall data, total enrollment is down 8,758 students (5.0 percent).



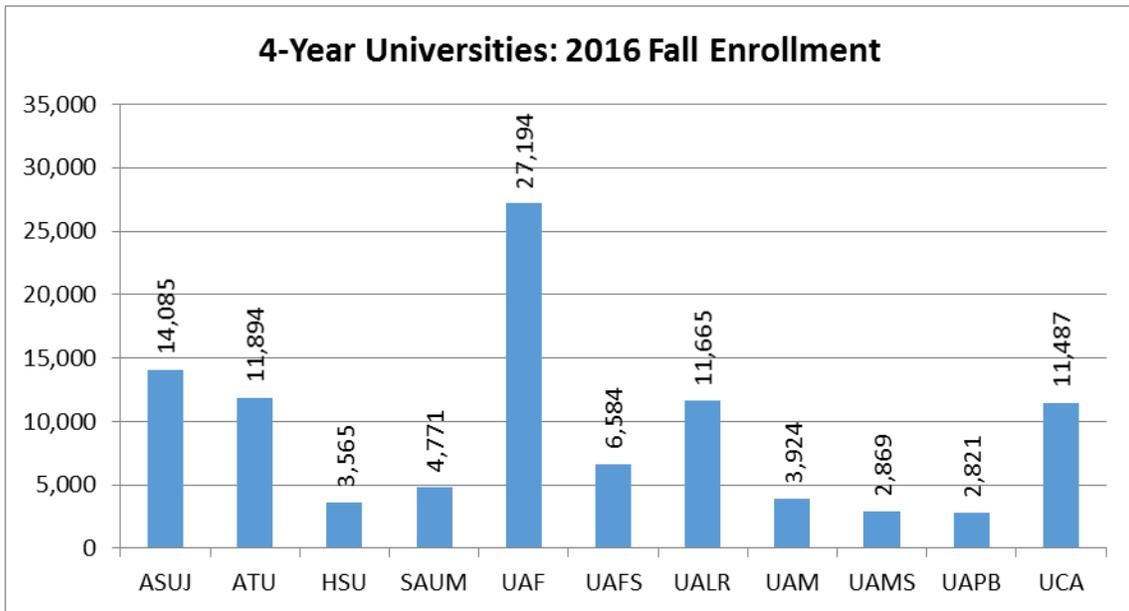
The table below shows that the highest percentage growth has occurred with the enrollment of high school students.

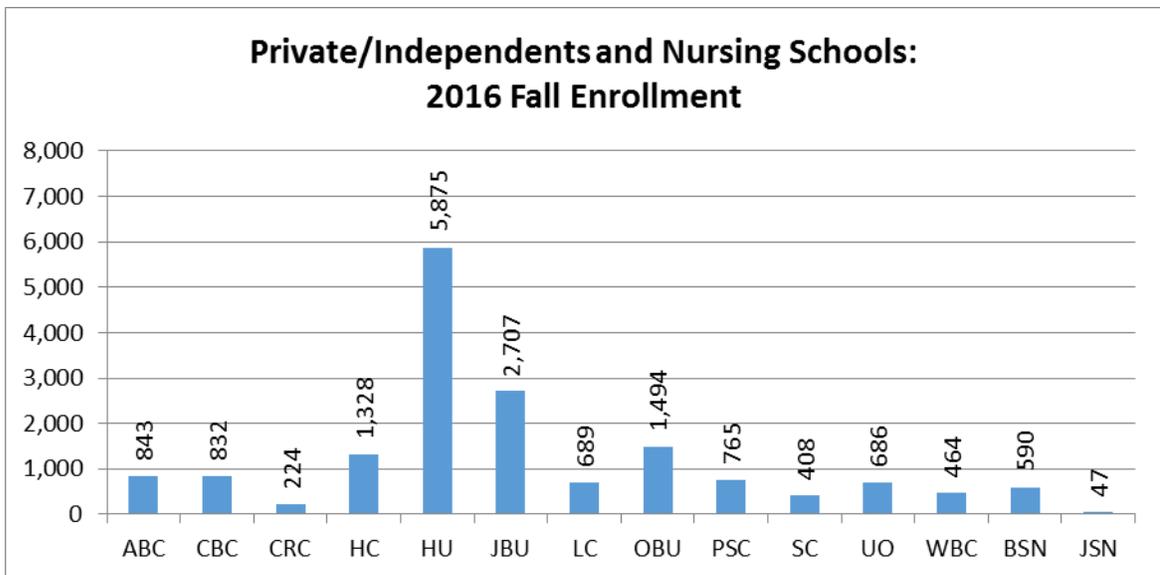
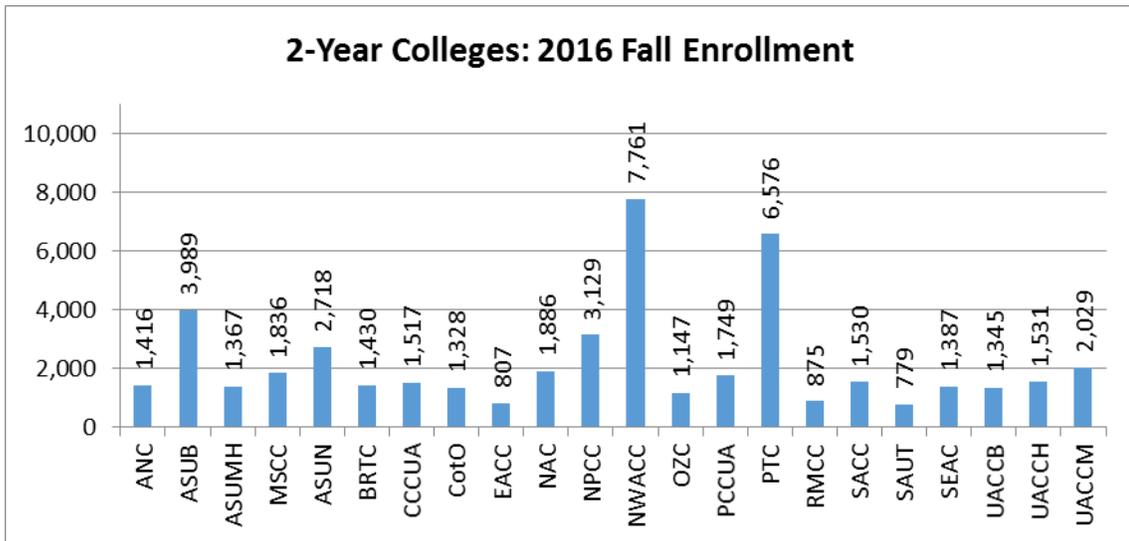
Growth Since 2012 Fall	Numbers	Percent
High School	3,750	27.2%
Undergraduate	-14,392	-10.1%
Graduate	1,884	10.1%
Total	-8,758	-5.0%

Public institutions account for 89.8 percent of total enrollment.



The following summarizes more specific information by sector.





Annual Unduplicated Headcount Enrollment

Annual unduplicated headcount enrollment is counting all students one time for the entire academic year. The student may be enrolled in two or more semesters but they are counted only once during the academic year.

Attachment 1-2 shows the total number of students served in for-credit classes at Arkansas higher education institutions by academic year, focusing on the unduplicated headcount of students enrolled in colleges and universities during at least one term during the academic year. The semesters and terms composing an academic year correspond closely to the July 1 through June 30 fiscal year and chronologically include a second summer term, the following fall semester, the following spring semester, and the following first summer term. (Note: Students enrolled in off-schedule courses related to these semesters and terms are also included. Also, the nursing schools of BSN and JSN have not yet participated in data collection process to have five years of history.) In those cases where the student enrolled in more than one term, which is most frequently the case, the student is counted only one time, hence this reports unduplicated headcount enrollment for the academic year and for each institution.

Unduplicated headcount provides a more complete picture of total statewide enrollment than does just the fall semester enrollment summary. The fall semester enrollment report presents a snapshot of enrollment that is valid for the fall term, but it does not take into account the number of new or returning students who enroll during the other semesters and terms throughout the academic year. The unduplicated headcount enrollment summary is also a better measure of the total number of students served at the college or university level.

The annual unduplicated headcount enrollment for Academic Year 2016 (2015-2016) in Arkansas higher education (4-year public universities, 2-year public colleges, private independent institutions, and nursing schools) was **200,926 students**; representing a 1-year decrease of 3.0 percent and a 5-year decrease of 0.05 percent.

Six 4-Year Universities reported increases in 1-year growth with the top three as follows:

1. Southern Arkansas University –21.1 percent
2. University of Arkansas Pine Bluff – 5.7 percent
3. Arkansas State University Jonesboro – 5.0 percent

Six of the eleven 4-Year Universities experienced positive 5-year growth. The top three were:

1. Southern Arkansas University –29.0 percent
2. University of Arkansas Fayetteville – 12.8 percent
3. Arkansas Tech University – 9.3 percent

Six of the twenty-two 2-Year Colleges experienced 1-year increases in annual unduplicated headcount enrollment. The top three were:

1. Arkansas State University - Newport – 11.5 percent
2. University of Arkansas Community College at Hope – 4.2 percent
3. University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville – 3.9 percent

Only three of the twenty-two 2-Year Colleges experienced positive 5-year growth. They were:

1. Arkansas State University Newport – 30.1 percent
2. Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas – 3.2 percent
3. University of Arkansas Community College at Hope – 2.3 percent

Seven private/independent institutions experienced 1-year growth in unduplicated headcount enrollment. The top three were:

1. University of the Ozarks – 10.5 percent
2. Arkansas Baptist College – 5.7 percent
3. Philander Smith College – 5.6 percent

Five of the private/independent institutions experienced 5-year growth in unduplicated headcount enrollment. The top three were:

1. Lyon College – 17.8 percent
2. John Brown University – 16.3 percent
3. Central Baptist College – 5.0 percent

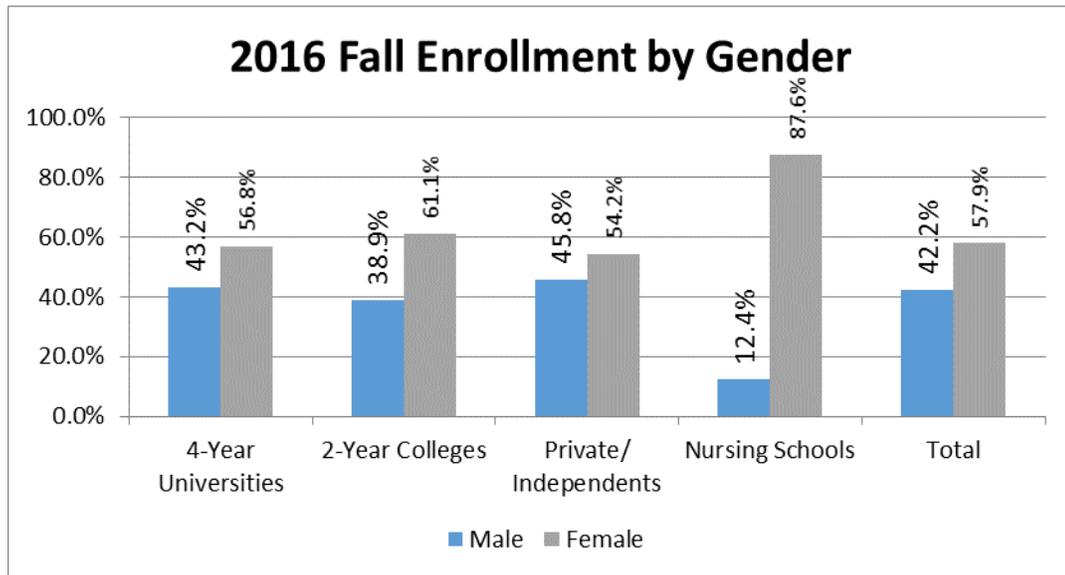
For the nursing schools, Jefferson School of Nursing reported a 1-year growth rate of 5.3 percent.

NOTE: The private/independent institutions and nursing schools are not being reported for 5-year growth as they have not been submitting data for each term of enrollment for five years. Their reporting of enrollment for every term began with the Lottery Act.

Student Demographic Profile

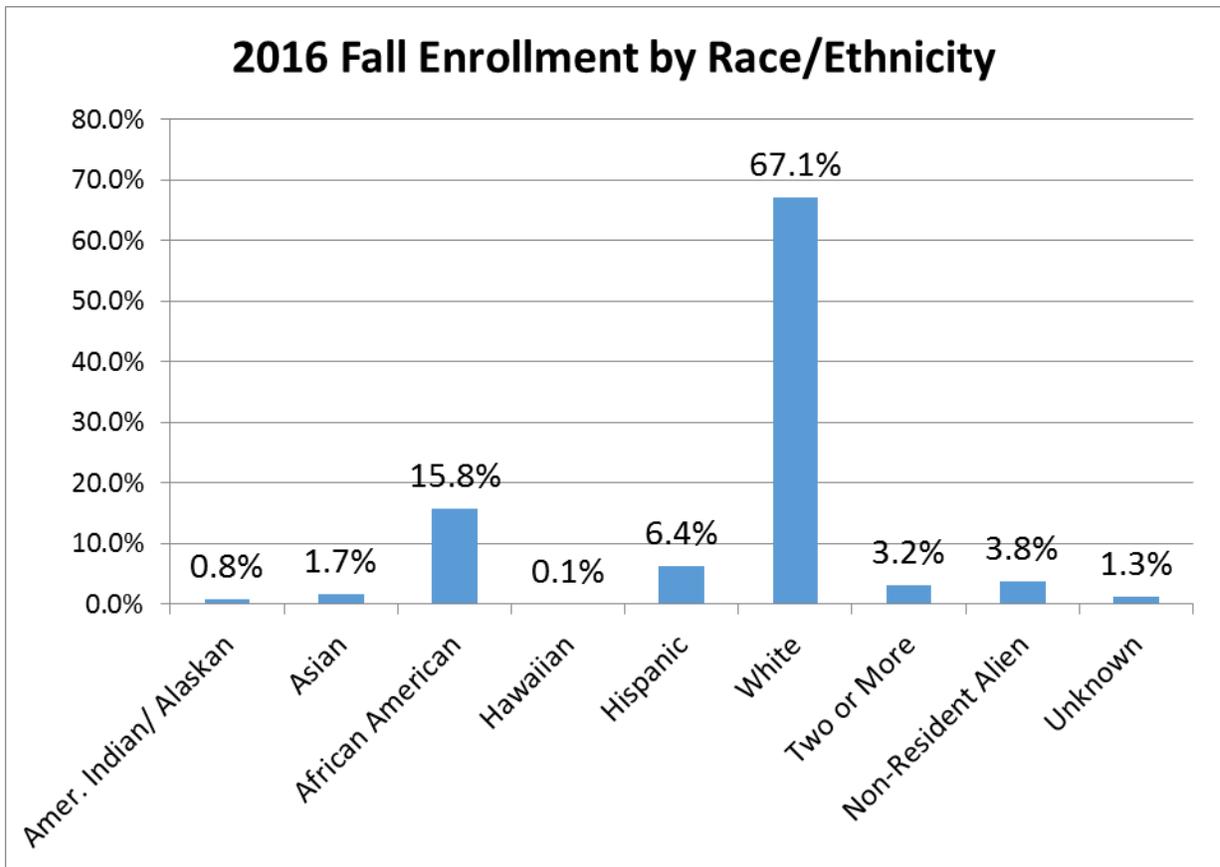
A demographic overview of students enrolled in Arkansas public higher education in fall 2016 contrasts significantly between the universities and the colleges and has changed since fall 2012.

- **Gender:** Overall, the proportion of male-to-female students has seen a gradual increase in the percentage of male students over the past 5 years from 40.9 percent in fall 2012 to 42.2 percent in fall 2016.



Change in Gender	Percent Male 2012 Fall	Percent Male 2016 Fall	Change
4-Year Universities	43.3%	43.2%	-0.1%
2-Year Colleges	37.3%	38.9%	1.6%
Private/ Independents	43.8%	45.8%	2.0%
Nursing Schools	11.4%	12.4%	1.0%
Total	40.9%	42.2%	1.3%

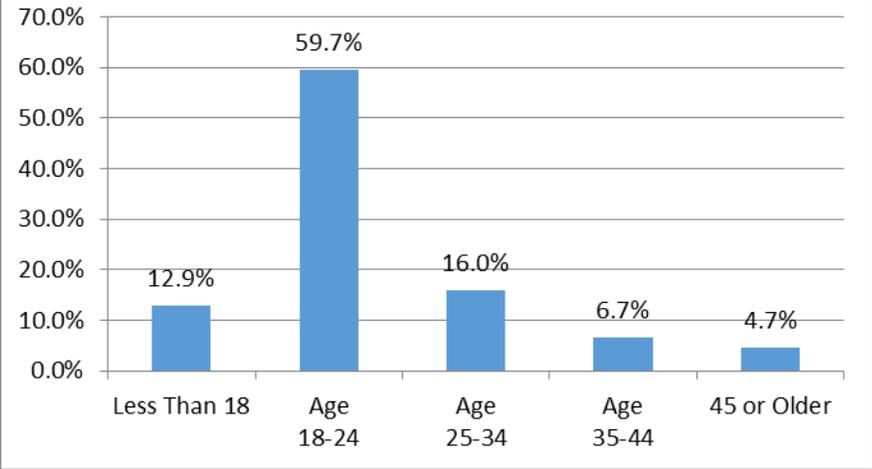
- Race/Ethnicity:** The race/ethnic breakdown for the fall 2016 semester follows. Note that the race/ethnicity categories are abbreviated; the full classifications are American Indian/Alaskan Native only, Asian only, African American only, Hawaiian and Pacific Islander only, Hispanic any, White only, Two or More Races only, Non-Resident Alien, and Unknown.



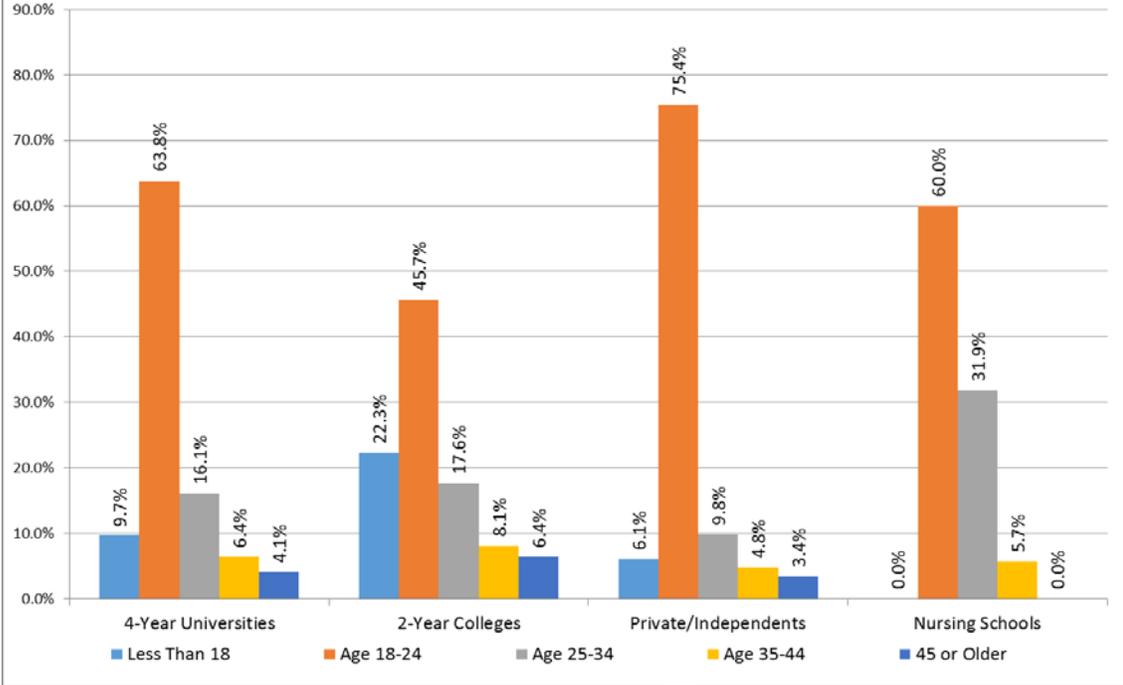
2016 Fall	Amer. Indian/Alaskan	Asian	African American	Hawaiian	Hispanic	White	Two or More	Non-Resident Alien	Unknown
4-Year Universities	0.9%	1.9%	14.7%	0.1%	5.1%	69.0%	3.0%	4.3%	0.9%
2-Year Colleges	0.7%	1.1%	21.4%	0.1%	6.2%	66.1%	2.4%	0.5%	1.5%
Private/Independent	0.9%	1.3%	15.8%	0.1%	3.6%	70.7%	1.9%	4.4%	1.4%
Nursing Schools	0.6%	1.1%	20.7%	0.0%	1.5%	74.2%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%
Total	0.9%	1.6%	17.0%	0.1%	5.3%	68.3%	2.7%	3.1%	1.1%

- Age:** The age distribution reveals contrasting trends for the two sectors. Not surprisingly, 63.8 percent of 4-Year University students and 75.4 percent of private independent students are in the traditional-age bracket (18-24 years), while only 45.7 percent of 2-Year College students are in this age bracket. When it comes to nursing students, 60.0 percent are between the ages of 18 and 24.

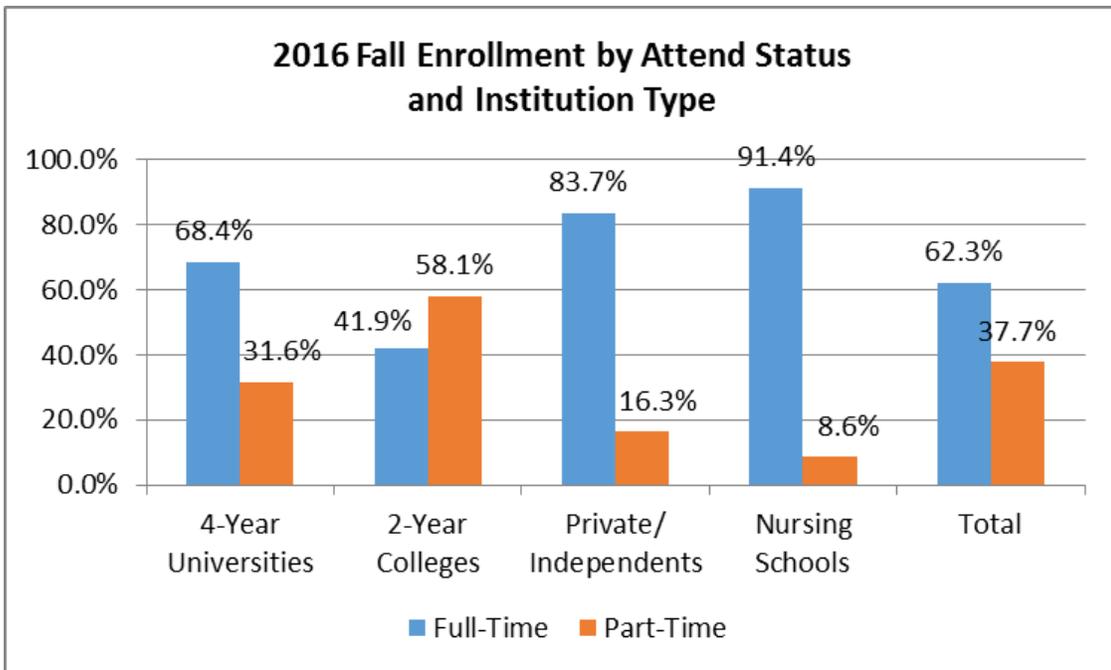
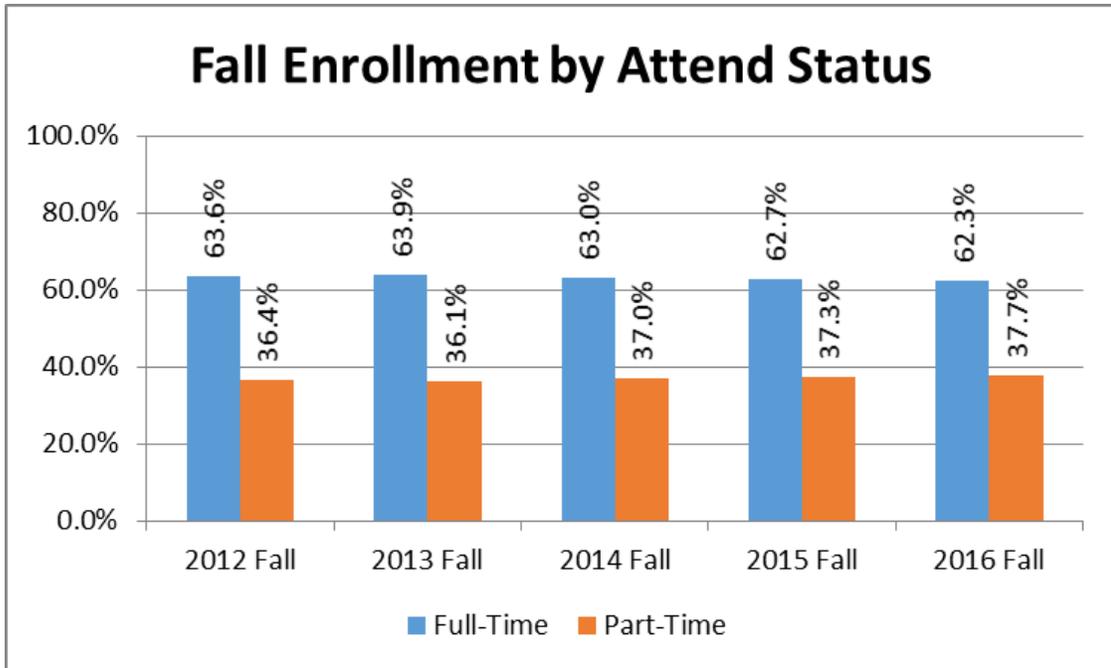
2016 Fall Enrollment by Age



2016 Fall Enrollment by Age and Institution Type



- **Attendance Status:** Since fall 2012, the overall percent of full-time students has decreased slightly.



- **Geographic Origin:** For all institutions, 78.4 percent of the students enrolled in the fall 2016 semester at Arkansas universities and colleges are from Arkansas.

Origin	Count	Percent
Arkansas	127,088	78.4%
Texas	10,062	6.2%
Foreign Country	6,350	3.9%
Missouri	3,777	2.3%
Oklahoma	2,569	1.6%
Tennessee	2,240	1.4%
Louisiana	1,206	0.7%

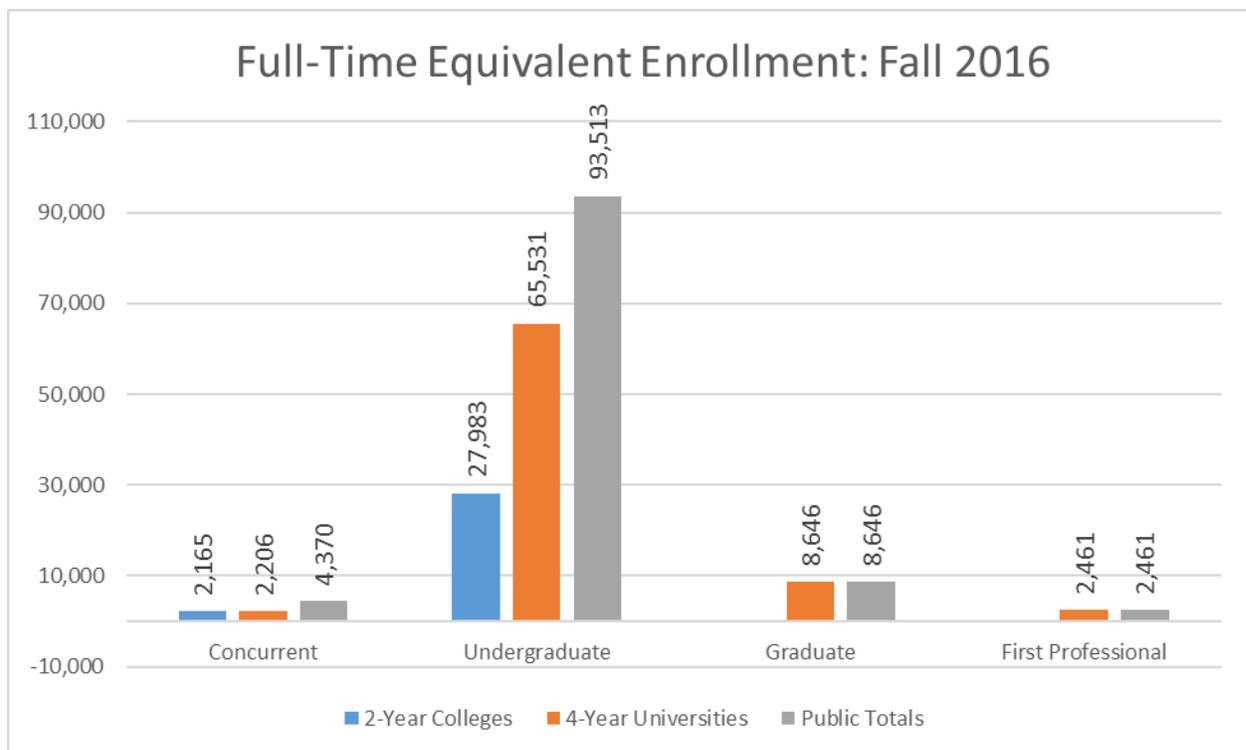
- **Off-schedule courses:** In order to ensure that institutions receive credit in the funding formula for a full year of student semester credit hours (SSCH) that they produce and in recognition that many institutions offer courses that meet according to a schedule that varies from the traditional fall-spring-summer calendar, ADHE has collected data concerning off-schedule courses and enrollments through a special reporting process. Through this process, short-courses and other courses that begin after the census date are reported and the resultant SSCH are tabulated and included for funding purposes. Without such a process, institutions that attempt to reach more students by making their courses more available, at times that are more convenient to students, would be penalized by losing state-funding for the SSCH that are generated by these courses.

Fall SSCH and FTE

SSCH and FTE are highly related as SSCH is usually divided by a pre-determined factor to determine FTE. For undergraduates, SSCH is divided by 15 to determine undergraduate FTE, whereas SSCH is divided by 12 to determine graduate FTE. However, to determine First Professional FTE, the past IPEDS method of using fall student headcounts is used in this report. This method counts all full-time students as 1 FTE and all part-time students as 0.6 FTE.

Note that SSCH and FTE are calculated for public institutions only. The independent institutions and nursing schools do not submit course data that is required for SSCH/FTE calculations.

Fall FTE (full-time equivalents) have decreased over the last five fall terms (from Fall 2012 to 2016 Fall) by 5.0 percent to a total of 108,991 FTE. Between Fall 2015 and Fall 2016, institutions experienced a small decrease of 0.2 percent.



Undergraduate SSCH

The 4-year universities with the greatest volume of undergraduate SSCH were:

1. University of Arkansas Fayetteville – 310,489 SSCH
2. University of Central Arkansas – 127,509 SSCH
3. Arkansas State University Jonesboro – 123,923 SSCH

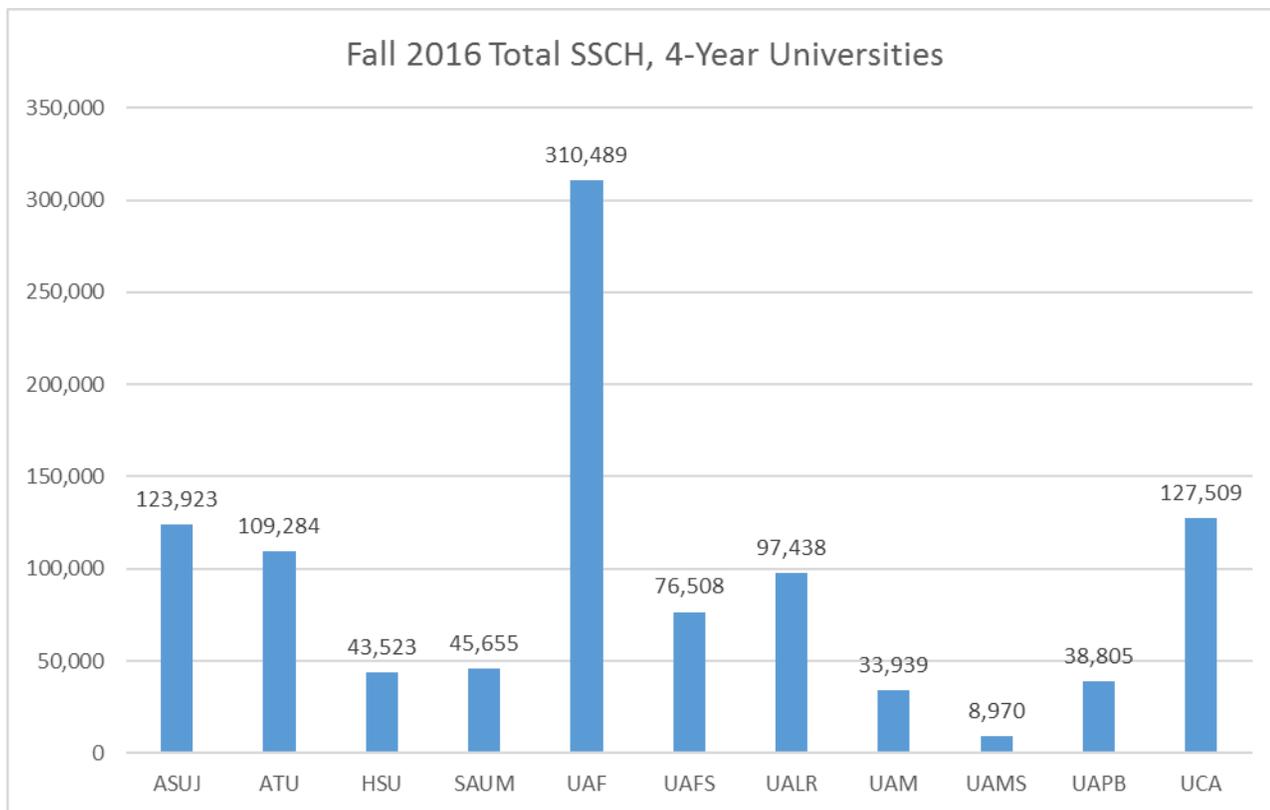
The 2-year colleges with the greatest volume of undergraduate SSCH were:

1. Northwest Arkansas Community College – 65,917 SSCH
2. Pulaski Technical College – 62,393 SSCH
3. Arkansas State University Beebe – 40,166 SSCH

Graduate SSCH

The 4-year universities with the greatest volume of graduate SSCH were:

1. University of Arkansas Fayetteville – 34,642 SSCH
2. Arkansas State University Jonesboro – 22,142 SSCH
3. University of Arkansas at Little Rock – 19,203 SSCH



Fall 2016 Total SSCH, 2-Year Colleges

